

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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Correction and Discipline of Children

By Evangelist John R. Rice

"And, ye fathers, . . . bring them up in the nurture (chastening) and admonition of the Lord"—Ephesians 6:4.

"If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?"—Hebrews 12:7.

"He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes"—Proverbs 13:24.

"Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying"—Proverbs 19:18.

"Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell"—Proverbs 23:13, 14.

"The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame"—Proverbs 29:15.

"Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul"—Proverbs 29:17.

Most baby animals are entirely self-supporting within a few weeks or months, at most; but it is normal for children to be in the home, and somewhat dependent upon their parents for support, for twenty years. A colt or calf can walk the day it is born, but a child normally takes ten or twelve months. Obviously God intended the child to be helpless and dependent long enough to stay in the home for training. God intended that the home should develop in children the moral qualities and principles and habits and adjustments essential to good character.

Animal parents take responsibility for training their little ones, and instinctively they are taught of God to chastise their young, to teach them obedience and safe

habits. Hens and mother birds peck their baby chicks and nestlings. I have seen many a cow kick her calf to stop over-boisterous attempts to get milk, painful to the cow. Mother bears cuff their cubs vigorously sometimes to stop a fight or to enforce obedience. And all horsemen and animal trainers know that punishment is sometimes necessary in handling animals. Certainly children, more than animals, need discipline and correction.

Children Need Correction Because Naturally Wicked

There is a very definite reason why children also need punishment occasionally. That reason is that all children inherit the fallen, sinful nature which the human race has had since the sin of



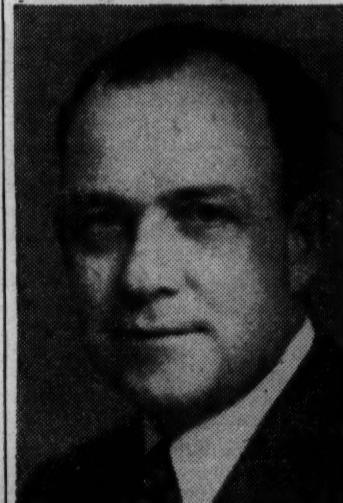
DR. VANCE HAVNER

Adam and Eve. Attractive, charming, lovable as little children are, they are sinful in nature. It is true that

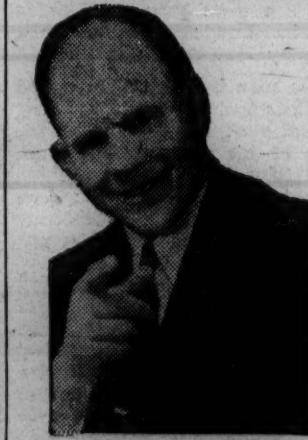
"Not in entire forgetfulness,

Not in utter nakedness,
But trailing clouds of glory do we come

From God, Who is our home."
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DR. HERSCHEL FORD



DR. SAM MORRIS

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

THE FOUR PERSONS YOU MAY BE

By Rev. Vance Havner, D.D.

(Sermon preached over radio WJJD, Chicago Christian Business Men's program February 4, 1944. Mechanically recorded for "The Sword of the Lord.")

1. "There is no difference: for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:22, 23).

2. "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (II Cor. 5:17).

3. "I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." (Gal. 2:20).

4. "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." (I John 3:2).

I want to speak to you for a few minutes about the four persons that it is possible for every Christian to be in the course of his Christian experience. They tell us a cat has nine lives; I don't know about that, but I know that a Christian, in the course of his complete experience, is four different persons, or may be.

1. The Person You Were

I don't know how far you are along that road today. But first of all, there is the person you were before you were saved: "There is no difference; for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:22-23) "That which is born of the flesh is flesh." (Jno. 3:6) "Can the Ethiopian

change his skin, or the leopard his spots? Then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil." (Jer. 13:23) Our human nature today doesn't like to be reminded of its depravity, but it is depraved, just the same. I read somewhere of a faithful preacher who gave a wonderful message on the depravity of the human heart. When he finished, somebody came up after the benediction and said, "I just can't swallow this depravity that you've been preaching about." The old preacher said, "You don't have to swallow it; it's already in you!" And so, whether we like it or not, we've got it.

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THE GREATEST SIN

By Rev. W. Herschel Ford, D.D.

Pastor, Southside Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla.

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him."—John 3:36

What is the greatest sin in the world? Some will say that it is murder. Yet Paul, who was responsible for the murder of many Christians, was saved and in turn became a remarkable Christian. The crucifiers of Christ were murderers, but it is probable that many of them were saved on the day of Pentecost. The Bible tells us that there will be no murders in Heaven, but some who have been murderers will be there—their souls saved and their sins washed away in the blood of Christ.

Some will say that theft is the greatest sin, but the thief on the cross heard Jesus saying to him, "This day shalt thou be with me in Paradise." Some thieves go to prison, hear the gospel and are saved. There will be no thieves in Heaven, but those who have been thieves and who have had their sins forgiven will be there. Some will say that adultery is the greatest sin. Yet Jesus forgave the woman who was taken in the sin. And the woman, who had five husbands and was still living in adultery, was saved after a wonderful interview with Him at the well near Sychar. There are no adulterers in Heaven, but many who

have committed this grievous sin will be there, having had a remarkable experience of salvation through Jesus Christ.

But what is the greatest sin in the world? It is simply the rejection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Are you a sinner? God loves you—He gave His Son to die upon Calvary's cross for you. Now He offers this wonderful salvation to you. He offers to save you for this life and for the life that is to come. You may reject that Lovely One—you may trample Him under foot—you may do nothing with Him and live without any thought of Him, but in so doing you have

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WILD PARTIES IN WARTIME

By Rev. Sam Morris, D.D.

(Eighth of a Series of Articles on Booze and the War)

The Bible tells us that Belshazzar, the king of Babylon, gave a great feast and called in a thousand of his lords, their wives and their concubines. They feasted, drank wine and praised the gods of gold, silver, brass, iron, wood and stone; and it was during that wild drunken revelry that the king was killed and Babylon fell. That occurred nearly twenty-five centuries ago. We point to this as an example of the heathenism and the folly of pre-enlightened history. But it is not out-of-date. Twenty centuries of enlightenment and civilization have passed, but the same folly has marked national and international conduct in World War II.

A Good Conference

In May, 1943, there was held in Hot Springs, Virginia, an international food conference attended by representatives of forty-three

foreign countries. The Virginia liquor laws provided that each delegate could purchase for himself a gallon of liquor. But what delegate at such an important conference as that would want to waste time by imbibing only one gallon of liquor! The State Department imported fifty cases of Scotch, twenty cases of Bourbon, ten cases of rye, ten cases of gin, six of vermouth, two of brandy and two of assorted cocktails. In all, there were approximately 2,400 pints of booze provided by the State Department to enliven that international food conference.

The Cairo Conference

A delegation headed by the President of the United States, and consisting of representatives from England and from China, met at the fashionable Mena House Hotel in Cairo, Egypt, to

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Correction and Discipline of Children

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Little children have something heavenly, something innocent, something wonderfully sweet about them. They are gifts from God beyond price. But every such little child has a taint of sin inborn. Every one has a nature that, if not curbed, may lead to murder, to adultery, to blasphemy, to defiance of God, to Hell itself!

God's Word teaches that little children are born with a taint of sin. Psalm 58:3 says, "The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies." David, in his heart-broken prayer after his shameful sin with Bath-sheba, said, "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me" (Psalm 51:5).

He knew whence came his sin; it was the natural fruit of a fallen, depraved nature which he had had from birth, even from his conception! I do not mean that little children, unaccountable infants who do not consciously sin, are lost. Rather, the Bible teaches that they are kept, by God's merciful grace, until they come to the time of accountability to God, a personal consciousness of sin. No one goes to Hell for the sinful nature he inherited. No one is punished in Hell for Adam's sins of which he is the unconscious partaker by inheritance. First Corinthians 15:22 says, "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." Whatever a child lost by inheritance of the taint of Adam's sin, he has gained back in Christ. The child is kept safe until he personally, himself, becomes a sinner. But we must remember, in dealing with children, that we have a fallen, tainted, depraved nature to contend with, to restrain, and, as far as possible, bring under the control of a developed conscience, a moral character, and, when the child is saved, under the mastery of a new nature, imparted at conversion.

A prominent man, speaking for the Atlanta Optimist Club the other day, expressed a belief that every boy is good by nature and with a fair chance would be a noble, good man. Really, he expressed only a very dangerous half truth, or less than a half truth. Every child has capacities for good in this sense, that God loves every child and wants to come into the heart and make the child good. And God has put certain capacities in the child which by careful discipline and restraint and nurture may develop into noble qualities. But left without discipline, without restraint, without punishment for sin and without definite influence for God and righteousness, every child in the world would turn out bad, wicked, unsocial, criminal! Every mother and father, viewing their precious baby, should remember that that little one is no better than the

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first child ever born, when Cain was cradled in the arms of his mother, Eve. Your child and mine will turn out like Cain unless definitely restrained, controlled, disciplined, and influenced for righteousness and God.

The fallen nature inherited by every child, demands that children should be brought up in the fear of God, with instruction and correction, as well as prayers and tears. When one realizes that the duty of parents is to take little ones with sinful, perverted natures and prepare them for Heaven, it is easy to see that punishment for sin and the restraint of strong authority is absolutely necessary in the home.

Parents, Like God, Must Punish Sin And Reward Righteousness

Parents stand in the place of God before their children, to a remarkable degree. Particularly does the father in the home have the authority of God over his children, and acts as God's deputy. The Bible often uses a human father to illustrate God's attitude toward His children. "Like as a father pitith his children, so the Lord pitith them that fear him" (Psalm 103:13). "When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven," said Jesus (Luke 11:2). "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?" (Matt. 7:11). Parents, I say, stand before their children, clothed with the authority of God.

So in Colossians 3:20 we read, "Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord." How striking is this statement, that the authority of parents over their children is to be unlimited, and that children are to obey their parents in all things!

And the highest morality is summed up in the commandment, "Honor thy father and thy mother," and that morality is to be rewarded thus: "that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee" (Exodus 20:12). Parents have the authority of God over their children, and how serious, how all-important is this responsibility!

But God punishes people for sin. So the Bible declares from the beginning to end. Even God's saints are subject to His chastisement for their own good. And since parents are to exercise the authority of God over their children to a very large degree, the Bible clearly teaches that parents should chastise their children, for their own good, just as God punishes His children for their own good.

Hebrews 12:6-8 says, "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons." Here the simple rule is given that God chastises His children as all good fathers chastise their children.

"If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?" It is in the very nature of sonship to receive chastising when needed. It is in the very nature of fatherhood to give chastising when necessary. Any father who does not whip his children, treats them as if they were bastards (verse 8). A man who as a whoremonger begets children outside of marriage, ignores his children, takes no responsibility;

for them, refuses to be a father to them. He does not support them, he does not teach them, he does not chastise them. He does not recognize the bastard boy as his son. So, God says that any man who does not whip his children to make them mind, treats them as bastards, as illegitimate children for whom he takes no responsibility! Nothing could show more plainly the truth that God regards necessary chastisement of children as the inescapable duty of a father toward his children.

In these days when juvenile delinquents fill the jails; when homes for fallen girls are crowded, when teen-age prostitutes throng every city and run after soldiers; when smoking, drinking, immoral, criminal youth has become the greatest moral problem in America, some educators frown on discipline of any kind. These silly, morally immature, impractical educators and theorists have utterly failed in turning out good men and women, citizens of character, with Christian hearts and noble lives; yet they scoff at corporal punishment so clearly taught in the Bible and so thoroughly vindicated by practical experience. The only answer to juvenile delinquency, the only answer to a generation which has grown up without faith in God, without self-control, without any steadfast of moral character, is to come back to the Bible and find God's way of growing men and women with character. Prayerful, intelligent, Christian discipline in the home is absolutely essential to the growing of good men and women.

Another plain command of the Scripture on this subject is given in Ephesians 6:4, "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

Fathers are to bring their children up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. I was startled to find, only yesterday, that the word *nurture* in Ephesians 6:4 means chastisement or chastening. In fact, the word *nurture* is translated from the same Greek word *paideuo*, which is translated *chastening* in Hebrews 12:5, in Hebrews 12:7, and Hebrews 12:11! It is the same word translated *chastisement* in Hebrews 12:8. And the Greek verb on the same stem as this word, *paideuo*, is used in Luke 23:16 and again in Luke 23:22 of the scourging of Jesus! "Pilate said, I will chastise him and let him go." The word *nurture* in Ephesians 6:4 means *chastisement*, in the original Greek Scripture. So, fathers are really commanded to bring their children up in the discipline, or correction, or chastening and admonition of the Lord!

For parents to chastise their children as necessary is explicitly commanded in the Word of God. Parents act for God in punishing sin, in rewarding righteousness and in compelling the obedience of their children.

The responsibility of parenthood is almost overwhelming, when viewed by the standard of Holy Scripture. Deuteronomy 21:18-21 shows us clearly that every father and mother should rather have their son dead than for him to live in disobedience to their authority and teachings.

"If a man have a stubborn and rebellious son, which will not obey the voice of his father, or the voice of his mother, and that, when they have chastened him, will not hearken unto them: Then shall his father and his mother lay hold on him, and bring him out unto the elders of his city, and unto the gate of his place; And they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton, and a drunkard. And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you;

and all Israel shall hear, and fear" (Deut. 21:18-21).

It is understood from other Scriptures that a child properly brought up will not, when grown or near grown, be a rebel and a drunkard. But if parents had failed, under the Mosaic law, to train a son for God and righteousness to the extent that later the lad should turn out to be a rebel, a stubborn and rebellious son, a glutton and a drunkard, they should first chaste him thoroughly and then "when they have chastened him," they find that he "will not hearken unto them," then they are to bring him to the elders of the city to be stoned!

It is true that we do not have the same kind of civil government today. Instead of bringing such a son to be stoned, in these days he would have to be left to the officers of the law and the courts. And parents who do their duty, beginning from the babyhood of the little one, will never need to come to such an extremity. But this Scripture plainly shows that parents should feel the desperate importance of discipline. Disobedience to parental authority, long continued and deliberate on the part of a minor son was thus punished, under the Mosaic Law, with the death penalty!

Our modern, easy-going standards have let rot the very foundations of our society, because we have not insisted on the authority of fathers and mothers being exercised in the home. The whipping of children to punish sin and compel obedience, as necessary, is absolutely essential to the proper development of character and the growing of moral, upright men and women. Fathers and mothers in this matter act for God Almighty and wield His authority in the home.

God Specially Holds Parents To Account For The Discipline And Control Of Their Children

It is no small matter to be responsible to God for bringing a little life into this world. But every father and mother is responsible to God; and God holds parents strictly to account to enforce righteousness, to punish evil, to grow a character submissive to God and the right.

Abraham is an example greatly blessed, because God could depend on him to control his children for the right. In Genesis 18:17-19 we are told why God took Abraham in His confidence about the planned destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

"And the Lord said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him."

Here we see that God decided to tell Abraham His plans, "For I know him, that he will command his children and his household

after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment." And this would make it so God would be able to fulfill His promise to Abraham: "that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him."

How striking and impressive is the truth that God promised His blessings to Abraham, because He knew that Abraham would command his children and his household and make them serve God! The inference is obvious that if Abraham had not been one to make his household obey, God would not have confided in him. His plans for the future and would not have made to him such exceeding great and precious promises. For a man to make his children obey, and so to bring them up in righteousness and judgment, is a fundamental matter of character, greatly honored of God!

Eli, the high priest of God in the days when Samuel was born, is a sad example of a man who failed God in this matter. Eli was a good man. As far as we know, God had no complaint with the way he held the office of high priest, no complaint about his moral life, no complaint about the way he judged the people. By all human standards, says one, Eli was a great and good man. But in the matter of commanding his children, in restraining and correcting and disciplining them, Eli was a failure!

When Eli was an old, old man and his sons were grown and married with families of their own, God still held it against him that he did not restrain his sons. Eli had rather feebly protested against the adultery and the greed of his sons (I Sam. 2:22-25). They did not obey their father, however, and Eli did not enforce his will upon them. And for this very reason, that is, because Eli did not vigorously take the matter in hand and punish his own sons, grown married men that they were, God's curse came upon him! The prophet of God came to Eli and warned him that Eli honored his sons above God (I Sam. 2:29). This man of God prophesied that Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, should both die in one day, that Eli's family would be completely removed from the priesthood. And God said,

"And I will raise me up a faithful priest, that shall do according to that which is in mine heart and in my mind: and I will build him a sure house; and he shall walk before mine anointed for ever. And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left in thine house shall come and crouch to him for a piece of silver and a morsel of bread, and shall say, Put me, I pray thee, into one of the priests' offices, that I may eat a piece of bread" (I Sam. 2:35, 36).

Then the little child, Samuel, grew up with a heart tender toward the Word of God; and God gave him this message against Eli:

"In that day I will perform against Eli all things which I have spoken concerning his house: when I begin, I will also make an end. For I have told him that

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I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not. And therefore I have sworn unto the house of Eli, that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be purged with sacrifice nor offering for ever" (I Sam. 3:12-14).

Read that again carefully and see the importance of it. "Because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not" God said he would judge the house of Eli forever, "that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be purged with sacrifice nor offering for ever."

What was this terrible sin of Eli, this "iniquity" that would never be purged? What was this sin that should bring a curse upon all the unborn generations of Eli's house? It was simply this: Eli did not restrain his sons! He should have chastised them and made them obey, made them walk uprightly when they were children and young men. If he had done so then, they would not have disgraced him when he was old. But even after the sons were grown, mature men, God held Eli accountable when he did not restrain them. Eli as a high priest could have had his sons publicly whipped, could have put them out of the priesthood, could have had them stoned publicly, put to death for their crimes. He did not punish his sons, and so the curse of God came on his family forever!

I am simply saying that God holds mothers and fathers accountable for their children. There is no way to be a good Christian when you do not do right on this fundamental matter of the correction and discipline of your children.

"Do you mean to say that one cannot be a good Christian who does not rule well his children? Do you mean to say that this is a fundamental matter of Christian character, that parents must make their children obey, must punish them, restrain them, and discipline them?" So, someone may ask. I answer, "That is exactly what the Bible teaches." For example, in I Timothy, chapter 3, God gives the qualifications for a bishop or pastor of a church and likewise the qualifications for a deacon.

About the bishop, I Timothy 3:4, 5 says that he must be, "One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)"

Here it is clearly stated that no matter how sound in doctrine, how fervent in spirit, how clean in life, no man is fit to be pastor of a church who does not discipline his children and have his children in subjection with all gravity!

The same requirement is made for those who would be officers of a local church, the deacons. First Timothy 3:12 says, "Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well." A man who is not a good ruler over his own family, is not fit even to be a servant in the church of God (the word *deacon* means servant).

How many, many times the influence of one who longs to serve Christ is utterly ruined because he has failed to rule well his own house! Disobedient, unruly children, undisciplined children, bring to naught the influence of a godly father. Hence, the Scripture commands, no man is to be elected pastor of a church, nor even deacon in a church, who does not follow the Bible commands about disciplining and ruling well and keeping in subjection his own children.

To rear godly children, to restrain them, to correct them, to bring them up in the chastening and admonition of the Lord, is one of the simple and basic Christian virtues, without which Christian parents cannot please God.

Punishment A Necessity And Proper Moulder Of Character

Is corporal punishment actually necessary for a child? Are not other methods more modern and more effective? That is not what the Word of God teaches. Other punishment may be sometimes effective, and certainly there are other essentials to proper child rearing; but whipping has a distinct place, ordained of God in the discipline and development of children.

Proverbs 20:30 says, "The blueness of a wound cleanseth away evil: so do stripes the inward parts of the belly." A blue bruise

cleanses away evil from the character, when rightly given; stripes do the same for the inward life, says this Scripture.

Happy is the child who learns very early in life that sin brings trouble! One who gets soundly punished for sin will learn to fear sin, and then to hate it. "The blueness of a wound cleanseth away evil: so do stripes the inward parts of the belly." This, God's Word says.

Certainly then, sometimes punishment should be so vigorous as to leave stripes on a child. I remember poignantly the first time one of my little ones was so stubborn that I had to spank her two or three times about the same thing, and I was so vigorous about it that faint blue marks were left by my fingers. The beloved but stubborn child had surrendered to the inevitable, had given up her will in the matter and had quietly gone to sleep when I saw those marks; the sight cut me to the heart. I went alone to cry and pray. I knew of no other way besides the vigorous spanking to get the proper results, and I was sure I had done right. Yet the blue marks on the little body, so precious, left me stricken with grief. I remember well that I prayed something like this: "Heavenly Father, I do not pretend to know much about rearing children. I only know what You have said in Your Word, and I am going to try to do it. Now, oh, my Heavenly Father, You must see that it gets the blessed results You have promised. You must make my girls good girls!"

And I bear the dear Lord record that He has fulfilled His Word in the matter of my beloved daughters. Blessed and holy results in character can come from a sound whipping given in Jesus' name, and because it is right, in punishment for sin, and to secure obedience.

This teaching, that discipline, correction, punishment whenever necessary, leads to morality and good character is taught further in Proverbs 29:15. There we are told, "The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame." One who is restrained, and held under control by his father and his mother, will learn to control himself. One who is properly curbed and instructed as a child will learn to curb himself. One who has properly learned to appreciate and submit to the authority of the home will find it normal to submit to the authority of school and the authority of government. Real character is developed by strict and careful rearing by godly parents who believe the Word of God that "The rod and reproof give wisdom."

In Proverbs 29:17 the same truth is restated. "Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he will give delight unto thy soul." The father who corrects his son will later feel pride and joy in the grown son who will thus have learned to control himself.

These Scriptures agree that the correction of children, when done consistently, prayerfully, will curb the hot temper of youth, will train little feet in paths of morality and righteousness, and that the character thus developed will be a matter of pride and joy to the fathers and mothers who loved God and righteousness enough to rear their children according to the Scriptures.

Admiral Dewey, the hero of Manila in the Spanish American War, tells us that a good whipping kept him from becoming a criminal. An Indiana farmer in 1898 published the following remarkable story, telling how the boy who later became Admiral Dewey, the hero of Manila in the Spanish-American War, was an unprincipled bully as a boy, headed for a life of crime, and was saved for society by a genuine whipping. The whipping was delivered by Z.

K. Pangborn, major in the Civil War and later congressman. The article follows:

"Major Z. K. Pangborn of Jersey City, the only man who ever whipped Admiral George Dewey, was nominated for congress a few days ago by the Republicans of the Hudson County District, New Jersey. Major Pangborn whipped Dewey while the latter was his pupil in a backwoods school near Montpelier, Vermont, half a century ago.

"When Dewey was a boy, Pangborn, according to his story, being then fresh from college, undertook the management of a district school in Montpelier. The school had been in rebellion, and Dewey was the leader of the anti-teacher brigade. Several teachers had been removed, and one had been stood on his head in a snow bank. It was generally said in Montpelier that nobody could govern that school. When Pangborn appeared the first day he noticed Dewey up a free throwing stones at small boys.

"'You've got to stop that,' said the teacher sharply.

"'Go to blazes!' retorted Dewey from his perch.

"Pangborn provided himself with a rawhide, which he tucked away over the schoolhouse door, and then placed several clubs of good hickory on top of the pile in the old wood box. The following day Pangborn was about to punish some unruly scholars when Dewey stepped up to his desk and said:

"Look here, teacher, we're going to give you the best licking you ever had."

"Take your seats," ordered Pangborn.

"Dewey shot out his right fist and it landed dangerously near Pangborn's jaw. Instantly the teacher seized his rawhide, and Dewey was writhing under the lash. When the other boys tried to go to Dewey's help, the teacher seized the hickory clubs and with one piece in each hand struck the boys about him with such vigor that they soon ran. He gave it to Dewey hot and heavy, and it was not long before the future conqueror of the Philippines was begging for mercy for the first and only time in his life. That put an end to the rebellion.

"Dewey and Pangborn have been warm friends ever since. Dewey recently said to the Major: I shall never cease to be grateful to you. You made a man of me. But for the thrashing you gave me, I would probably be a state prisoner."

Many another good man, like Admiral Dewey, was saved from prison by a good whipping. Many others are in jail who could have been saved to society as good citizens by discipline.

Lack of Discipline in the Home Leads to Public Shame Later

Many a life of sin and shame is simply the outgrowth of a life without any discipline, without rebuke and without reproof. The child who was not punished for sin at home will naturally feel that he can get by with sin. And the same child will grow into a man without self-control, without a fear of sin, without a conscience well developed. Proverbs 29:15 says that "The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame." Do you leave your child to himself? Do you let him have his own way? Then, mother, you might as well get ready to be brought to shame by the same boy or girl that you now refuse to punish!

There are a number of Bible illustrations of this truth, that undisciplined children turn out to be wicked adults.

Remember the wicked sons of Eli, the high priest of Israel. These sons of Eli, though priests, were never converted. First Samuel 2:12 tells us, "The sons of Eli were sons of Belial; they knew not the Lord." They are sacrilegious, despising the offerings of the Lord (I Sam. 2:17). They committed adultery with the women who came to the tabernacle to worship (I Sam. 2:22). And whence came all this wickedness of the sons of Eli? Why did these sons of a great man of God go so thoroughly wrong? It is simply that they were not disciplined and restrained and corrected by Eli. For I Samuel 3:13 gives us God's words about it: "For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not."

What shame Eli and his wife must have had over these wicked, ungodly, unsaved, adulterous sons! But all that could have been saved with a few sound thrashings at the proper time, and with careful direction and restraint along with teaching and prayer. "A child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame."

Another Bible example of a sinful manhood following an undisciplined childhood is that of Adonijah, the son of David by his wife Hagar. Adonijah rebelled against David and tried to seize

(Continued on page eight)

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THE GREATEST SIN

(Continued from page one) committed the greatest sin and you will pay the highest price for your rejection. Now what does a man do who rejects Christ?

I. IN REJECTING CHRIST A MAN SHUTS THE DOOR TO HIS OWN HIGHEST POSSIBILITIES.

God has a great question in His Book—it is this, "What shall I do with Jesus, who is called Christ?" Until you have said "yes" to Jesus you cannot possibly rise to the highest possibilities of your own life. No man is at his best until he has linked his own possibilities to the power of Christ.

Someone asked a great man this question—"How may I become successful?" This was the answer he received—"Link your life to a great cause and give your best to that cause." You find a man who is doing the most good for God and the world, and you will find a man who has linked his life to that of Christ. Oh, how many useless people are in the world! They are people who are making no contribution to the world, simply because they haven't linked their lives with Jesus.

In the old days in Pennsylvania a little shop stood by the side of a great factory. The little shop had small power, but the great factory had all of its machinery running and still had power which was going to waste. The owner of the little shop said to the owner of the factory, "Let me break through the wall between my little shop and your factory and let me place one of my belts on your great wheel so that I might use some of this power which is going to waste." The owner of the great factory permitted him to do this, and soon the little shop, with this added power, became a great factory. Here you are like the little shop—your power is small, but here is Jesus who has all power in Heaven and earth—He says to you, "Link on to Me and use My power." So if you will cut loose from sin and surrender to Him, His power will be your power—you can rise to your highest possibilities. But if you reject Him and hold on to your sin and the world, you will be hindered from rising to your best.

II. IN REJECTING CHRIST A MAN PUTS HIMSELF IN THE WAY OF OTHERS.

Some time ago I went out into the yard on a moonlit night—I knew that soon there would be an eclipse of the moon as predicted by the astronomers. I looked up and saw the shadow of the sun moving across the moon. The shadow became larger and larger until the moon was entirely blotted out. Well, yonder is Christ, the Light of the World—Someone is looking at you . . . if you are not a Christian you become a shadow moving between them and Christ. They are cut off from His blessed light. No man goes to Heaven or Hell alone . . . you have an influence on someone . . . someone is following your example. Are you lifting them up or pulling them down?

It has been my great sorrow to know many parents who stand in the way of their children. Some of these parents were not Christians at all. Some had formerly

been active for Christ, but now were living backslidden lives. They had married, and children had come—they had stayed away from God's house—they had drifted into the world and now their lives are standing in the way of their children. When a baby is born it ought to be a time for the parents to rededicate themselves anew to God. They should say, "Here is a new life for which I am responsible—I must live for God so that my influence will be a blessing to this child." If you are not a Christian you stand in the way of others.

Dr. George W. Truett tells about a meeting he was holding in a certain place. Every night a fine sixteen-year-old boy was at the meeting and seemed to be deeply interested. The preacher said to him one night, "I notice that you have been interested in the services—why don't you come to Christ?" The boy replied, "My father is a doctor—he never goes to church, he is not a Christian and he is the finest man I know—I am going to follow him. He

says by his example that the Christian religion isn't worthwhile." The next morning the preacher found his way to the doctor's office and said to him, "I want to talk to you about your boy. I have never known a finer boy, but I am worried about him. He has been to our meetings and is interested in the salvation of his soul, but now he has put the matter aside. I talked to him last night and he told me that you were his example . . . that he was going to follow in your foot-steps, which would mean that he would not become a Christian. Doctor, you owe something to this boy—you have too much at stake to let this matter go by." The doctor's face clouded and he said, "That is the heaviest blow I ever received. When will you have your next service?" And the preacher replied, "We meet again tonight at 8 o'clock." "I will be there," said the doctor. "I know just what to do." The doctor came that night. He listened to the sermon and when the invitation was given he walked down the aisle and made his surrender to Christ. As the preacher took his hand he said, "Doctor, look behind you!" and as the doctor turned about he saw his fine son coming down the aisle to make the same surrender. The boy threw his arms around the father's neck and said, "Oh, daddy, I am so glad you came! I wanted to be a Christian and now you have made it so much easier for me."

Oh, if you are not living as you should for Christ, think of the others upon whom you cast a shadow. Are you standing in their way?

III. IN REJECTING CHRIST A MAN PUTS HIMSELF ON THE DEVIL'S SIDE.

If you reject Christ you are taking the side of the devil. There is no middle ground—you are either on Christ's side or Satan's side. If you reject Christ you and your influence are on the side of the evil one.

There are millions of Christians in America. If they were on the right side in every moral question,

we would not be harassed by the liquor traffic nor the other deadly things of our American life. We would not only vote the wrong things out, we would vote the right men in. Our laws would be enforced and we would live in a better land. There are enough Christians in this country to clean it up once and for all if they took Christ's side on every moral issue. When these questions arise you ought to say, "If Jesus were here what stand would He take?" Then get on the side that you know He would be on and stand even though all the heavens fall. But—if you reject you are putting yourself on the wrong side—on the Devil's side.

IV. IN REJECTING CHRIST A MAN INSULTS GOD.

God is a great Father. He loves every creature in the world. Yet He knows you are lost and bound for hell—so in His great love He says, "I will save you—I will help you—even though it may cost me my Only Begotten Son. I will give Him up freely for you. So He gives His Son to die upon the cross for you. If you turn your back upon Him—if you reject Him you are saying . . . 'Away with Him . . . Away with God, I care nothing for Him or His Son.'" This is an insult to Almighty God. If you continue in this course there is no hope for you.

You have heard of an atheist who flaunts himself in the face of God and says, "If there be a God let Him strike me down." You shudder when you hear about this and you say that the man is insulting God. But wait a minute—Haven't you done something worse than this? You are an intelligent person and you hear the gospel . . . You know that there is a God and that He gave His Son to die for you. If you reject Him your insult is worse than the blasphemy of the most blatant infidel.

V. IN REJECTING CHRIST A MAN CRUCIFIES THE SON OF GOD AFRESH.

No man ever suffered as did Christ upon the cross. His was a three-fold suffering—physical, mental and spiritual. Since He was taking upon Calvary the anguish of sinners, He surely must have suffered as much on the cross as a lost man would suffer in hell. Now that suffering and that sacrifice were for every man. "He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for our sins only, but for the whole world." His suffering therefore was for those who accept Him and in like manner for those who reject Him. When a man rejects Christ he crucifies the Son of God afresh.

VI. IN REJECTING CHRIST A MAN REJECTS THE TESTIMONY OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST MEN.

John the Baptist said—"Behold the lamb of God, that taketh away the sins of the world."

Paul said—"In Him dwelleth all

the fulness of the Godhead bodily."

Peter said—"Thou art the Christ—the Son of the Living God."

Nicodemus said—"Master, I know thou art a teacher sent from God."

Polycarp said—"Eighty and six years have I served Him, and He has done me nothing but good."

Tolstoi said—"For thirty-five years of my life I was a man who believed in nothing. Five years ago my faith came to me. I believed in Jesus, and my whole life underwent a sudden transformation. Life and death ceased to be evil. Instead of despair I tasted joy and happiness."

Gladstone said—"All that I think, all that I hope, all that I write, all that I live for, is based on the Divinity of Jesus Christ, the central joy of my poor, wayward life."

Shakespeare said—"I commend my soul into the hands of my Creator, hoping and assuredly believing through the merits of Jesus Christ my Saviour to be made partaker of Life Everlasting."

J. P. Morgan said—"I commit my soul into the hands of my Saviour, in full confidence that having redeemed it and washed it in His most precious blood, He will present it faultless before the throne of my Heavenly Father."

Browning said—"If man plucked even a rag from the body of Jesus and wore it in contempt—despite self, he would look greater and better."

In my library I have a book with the title GREATEST THOUGHTS ABOUT JESUS CHRIST. In this book thousands of men pay their tribute to the Saviour. I haven't time to give them all, but all of them testify to the wonders that are in Christ Jesus. If you reject Christ, you are taking your stand against the greatest men who ever lived, for all of the truly great men have been real Christians.

VII. IN REJECTING CHRIST A MAN SELLS HIS DOOM IN HELL FOREVER.

John 3:36—"He that believeth on the Son hath life, and he that believeth not on the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him."

Isaiah 14:9—"Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming."

Psalm 9:17—"The wicked shall be turned into hell and all the nations that forget God."

John 3:18—"He that believeth on Him is not condemned, but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only Begotten Son of God."

Rev. 14:10—"The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone."

Rev. 20:15—"And whosoever

was not found written in the Book of Life, was cast into the lake of fire."

Rev. 21:8—"But the fearful and unbelieving, and the abominable and whoremongers, and sorcerers and idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone."

Here is man made in the image of God. He is a man with wonderful possibilities in his life. God recognizes the possibilities and gives him every possible opportunity to be saved . . . through the church and through the Bible and through the Holy Spirit and through the gospel He calls men to Eternal Life. But that man feels sufficient unto himself. He goes his way rejecting Christ and leaving God out. He goes his way holding on to his sin. What does this man have waiting for him at the end of the way when Christ takes the upper hand? **ANSWER—NOTHING BUT DOOM.**

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THE EDITOR'S ENGAGEMENTS



DR. JOHN R. RICE

Here are engagements of the editor, Evangelist John R. Rice, for the immediate future.

April 23 through May 13, Fourth Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo.

May 19-23, Bob Jones College Commencement, Cleveland, Tenn.

May 27-June 10, Water Tower Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo.

July 8-14, Chicago Christian Business Men's Conference on Evangelism, Lake Geneva, Wis.

July 15-21, Sword of The Lord Conference on Evangelism, Winona Lake, Ind.

Besides the above, the editor has engagements for city-wide union campaigns with 25 Baptist churches, St. Louis; with other sound groups of churches at Guthrie, Okla.; at Spokane, Washington;

ton; and Akron, Ohio. He has tentative engagements, plans to be completed, for city-wide campaigns in Seattle, Washington; Wasco, California, and Lexington, Ky.

Will readers of The Sword pray earnestly for these campaigns? As this is written we are just closing a good campaign in the large Curtis Baptist Church, Augusta, Ga., where Dr. Earl C. Sheridan is pastor. About 30 or 31 were converted yesterday (Sunday, April 22). We close Wednesday night, God willing.



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Wild Parties in Wartime

(Continued from page one)

discuss international agreements and map Pacific war strategy. It was an august occasion and involved the welfare of millions. Concerning the drinking on that occasion, Time magazine declared:

"The bar on the hotel's main floor did a rush business from 9 a.m. to midnight. Scotch ran out first night, but there was no repetition of that disaster; the Government hospitality fund had shipped 35 cases out from Britain, and also provided 500,000 cigarettes and 1,250 cigars."

The Teheran Conference

Following the Cairo Conference, the Chinese delegation returned home and the American and British delegations proceeded to Teheran, where they held another international conference with a Russian delegation concerning European war strategy. They arrived late on a Saturday afternoon and Sunday afternoon was devoted to a gala event featuring wine, champagne, Martinis and other alcoholic beverages. The conference was climaxed by a birthday dinner for Winston Churchill. From newspaper accounts, that birthday dinner must have been characterized by the clinking of glasses, merry laughter and fun. The number of toasts drunk at that dinner was estimated at from thirty-five to fifty. The Time magazine in its report wrote:

"The party roared on in high good humor, until young Hopkins' eyes were boggling out at the flow of liquor and the animated scenes around him."

The OWI Washington Party

The Office of War Information called its field representatives to Washington for a conference. They were to have dinner at the Carlton Hotel. They were first entertained at the hotel bar, where they were served Martini, Manhattan and Daiquiri-cocktails and highballs, and then partook of one of the most elaborate dinners ever spread—a dinner at which they drank the finest white wine and Burgundy.

The Statler Hotel Party

On Sunday night of February 13, 1944, while millions of godly fathers and praying mothers across the nation were gathered in their churches for worship and prayer that God might guide our nation and give victory to our

armed forces, there gathered in the Large Statler Hotel in Washington, D.C., some 1,500 national leaders and distinguished guests at one of the wildest drinking parties ever held. Senators, Congressmen, Cabinet members, Supreme Court justices, a Navy admiral, Donald M. Nelson of the War Production Board, outstanding press and club representatives—some fifteen hundred in all—drank liquor which cost \$7,500 to \$10,000. "There was Scotch whisky for 1,500 guests and every other drink a dream could muster."

National leaders were attending a party of this type while the world was being bathed in blood and tears in the most terrible war of all time—while thousands of young men were on canned rations, in blinding smoke, scorching heat and bleeding and dying on Pacific islands and in the war theaters around the world.

This fiendish mockery of their noble sacrifices took place on a Sunday night.

What a devilish sacrilege!

But that is not all. The very next week the head of the War Food Administration broadcast over a nationwide hook-up an appeal for the American people to tighten their belts and save. He urged them to dip their bread in gravy, tip their soup bowls, to get the last spoonful, gnaw the last nibble from every bone and squeeze their grapefruit dry. Yet, according to his own official records, fifty-four million bushels of food grains were wasted in 1943 in the making of booze. He had within his power the authority to save that food grain. Moreover, he permitted the distillers to resume whisky-making in the very middle of the most decisive stage of the war and thereby waste vast amounts of grain and sugar.

What unholy, high-handed hypocrisy in high places!

Pre-Invasion Parties

These Washington wartime wild parties have marked the social functions of our national capital throughout the war period and, indeed, to the very hour of the Western invasion. On May 24, only ten days before the invasion, the papers carried an article entitled "Washington Ignores Impending Invasion." It read as follows:

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The impending invasion of Europe has not slackened the furious pace of one of the merriest social seasons the capital has ever known.

Wartime Washington on the eve of the most stupendous undertaking in military history remains the gayest capital in the world, in the studied opinion of cosmopolitans.

More cocktail parties and dinners are being held than ever before. The easing of rationing regulations has given impetus to dinner parties, and the national liquor shortage has not curtailed capital cocktail parties.

Nor has invasion planning cut down the attendance of the gold-braided sector of capital society. There are as many if not more uniforms than ever among those making up the bulk of official society. Army and Navy names of the highest ranks appear on the society pages.

Political "Big Shots"

Here is the news story of all news stories concerning the Washington wild parties in wartime.

The United Press sent from Washington a release that was published in the Lexington Leader of Lexington, Kentucky, on March 28, 1944. It was headed "Political Big Shots Get First Call When Liquor Is In Demand." The article declared:

The thirst of the White House, State Department and members of Congress constitute "hardship cases" that give them top priorities on the capital's scant liquor supply, liquor dealers acknowledged.

Consideration given to the special demands of "worthwhile people" was described by Franklin G. Sartwell, vice-president of Milton Kremke, Inc., Washington's largest wholesale liquor dealers.

Conceding that when the man on the street is parched for a Scotch and soda it may well be that officialdom is to blame, Sartwell said his firm made a practice of rushing supplies to retailers when they phoned about "hardship cases."

"A hardship case," he added, might occur when a retailer is called upon to supply a number of cases of whisky for a function given by the White House or the State Department to entertain visiting delegates. Other members of Congress require large amounts of whisky for social events.

So, my friends, it is not hard to understand why the booze traffic has been given a free hand during the war. It is not hard to understand why there has been much drinking among the armed forces, the working public, the youth of the land and the high-school boys and girls. When the political "big shots," the leaders in the Government, and the high-ranking officials in the Army and Navy indulge in such drunken orgies, what else can you expect of the common masses?

America needs to repent. Official leaders need to get right with God or the Christian people whose boys are bleeding and dying ought to discard our present national leadership and elect new officials who will observe the Lord's Day, reverence the Lord's Name, stay sober and lead the nation in paths of righteousness.

(The above is one of eleven articles which you may have all in one 64 page pamphlet entitled BOOZE AND THE WAR for 50c. Order from Sword of the Lord Publishers, 214 W. Wesley, Wheaton, Illinois, or from Zondervan Publishing House, 845 Ottawa St., N.W., Grand Rapids.)

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4 PERSONS YOU MAY BE

(Continued from page one)

We have a way today of classifying our sins as mortal sins, venial sins, wrong sins, respectable sins. We even have contests sometimes on which to grade the sin. But God's Word does not deal with such matters as that; He calls a sin, "sin." We have new names for it today: we call it immaturity, theological growing pains, and a lot of other names. God's Word calls it always sin. We sometimes hire psychologists and psychiatrists to blame our weakness on our grandfathers, on our grandmothers, but, in the Word of God, sin is sin. And, as far as salvation is concerned, there is no such thing as being more or less of a sinner. A sinner is a sinner; you cannot be any more lost than lost, that is all there is to it. I believe that Nicodemus was just as lost as Barabbas and I believe that the rich young ruler was just as lost as the unrepenting thief on the cross. Sin is missing the mark, and an inch is as bad as a mile. And it doesn't matter what part of the woods you are from, whether back woods or the boulevards; whether you are mayor or bootblack, rich man, poor man, beggar man, or thief—there is no difference, for "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God."

Man says we need education; God says we need regeneration. Man says we need culture; God says we need Calvary. Man says we need to turn a new leaf; God says we need a new life.

And you cannot change the unchanged life of a sinner by merely getting him into a church. You know, I could have led some people to the Lord if they had not joined the church. But they got in a church, and then, when you tried to preach to them, they said, "He doesn't mean me. He can't mean me. I'm a church member." I told the folks down at Founders Week this morning that we have a lot of church members that have been starched and ironed and never been washed. The process has not begun properly. They are stiff enough, if that has anything to do with it; but they have never been saved. You know, it is curi-

ous, the reasons some people have for joining a church. Some time ago, I was with a dear pastor who was having a lot of church trouble. Some folks were writing him anonymous letters. One fellow wrote and said, "I want you to understand that I joined this church in honor of my mother." Well, that is one of the reasons why some people, I suppose, join churches, and it is just about as sensible as some other reasons that I know about.

And, do you know that the human nature, the unchanged life, the life of sin, cannot be changed by any device of ours. You can give a modern man every sort of blessing that ordinary humanity can afford: put him in a dress suit; put him in a limousine; give him a college diploma; start him out on an American highway with every advantage that can be given him. But if he is left to himself, he knows not whither he came nor where he is going. He wanders around in the wilderness of error and ends up in Hell because "That which is born of the flesh is flesh." (Jno. 3:6)

2. The Person You Are

That is the person you were; but, if you are a Christian and listening to me today, I press on to say that the second person is the person you are. "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." (Isa. 1:18) "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (II Cor. 5:17) In I Corinthians 6:11, you have both these fellows, the one you were and the one you are. "And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus." Isn't that a precious truth? And we have it again and again. "Ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord." In Colossians 3:7, 8, after mentioning certain sins, Paul says, "In the which ye also walked one time, when ye lived in them. But now . . ." Ah, it's different now! In I Peter 2:25, "Ye were as sheep going

astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls." Ah, this makes a difference, brother, when you are saved. I do not know where we got this funny idea that I hear today, that a man can be a Christian and not know any difference. Now I know that a man may be saved and not know the day and hour of his salvation; but you can't tell me that a man can come out of sin into salvation, and out of ruin into redemption, and out of brokenness into blessedness and out of law into grace, and not know some difference, because there is a difference there—YOU ARE A NEW CREATURE!

I have read of a godly woman who was married to an ungodly man and a revival was going on in their community, in the wintertime. She persuaded him to go one evening and he went and was saved. The next morning, while she was preparing breakfast, he said, "I want you to come and look out the window."

And she said, "Well, what do you see?"

He said, "Have you ever seen the world? Why, it looks like the very trees want to clap their hands!"

Outside, it was still the same bleak old winter landscape. But he was different, and that made everything else different. And, you know, he was perfectly Scriptural about those trees clapping their hands. I read, "Ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands." (Isa. 55:12) That is real applause, brother! That is what comes in when God gets hold of a man.

"Heav'n above is softer blue,
Earth around is sweeter green!
Something lives in ev'ry hue
Christless eyes have never seen:

"Birds with gladder songs o'erflow
Flow'r with deeper beauties
shine,

Since I know, as now I know,
I am His, and He is mine!"

It is a wonderful thing to know that. I believe in a gospel that makes a difference. Dr. Broadbent, down in Louisville Seminary, used to say to the boys, "Gentlemen, the gospel is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believes; but the way some fellows are preaching it today," he said, "you would think that the gospel was the power of nobody unto nothing." And it is being preached in many quarters today as though it has no power, but I am so glad that it is dynamite. That is really the word there. It is the dynamite of God. It will make a man snow-white; it will make him sky-blue; it will make him blood-red; it will make him solid as a rock and straight as a gun barrel. It will change him from booze to the Bible, from card tables to prayer meetings, from heartaches to hal-lujahs. It will take question marks out, and put exclamation points in the place of them! It will take out fear and put in love. It will take out sorrow and put in joy. It will give you garments of praise for the spirit of heaviness. "Where sin abounded, grace did much more abound." God is able to revive the stones out of the rubbish and restore the years the locusts have eaten, and make it again another vessel. If Michaelangelo could take a hunk of marble and carve an angel out of it; if Luther Burbank could take a cactus and make it do things; if engineers could take a malarial swamp and make a health resort of it; if men can do that, then should you and I ever doubt that

"Down in the human heart,
crushed by the tempter,

Feelings lie buried that grace can restore;
Touched by a loving heart, wakened by kindness,
Chords that were broken will vibrate once more."

I wonder if you have the possession today, or just the profession, maybe. Now I would not distress the weakest saint who on Jesus hath leaned for repose, but I would have you make your calling and election sure. Do you know, brother, that you are saved? Are you really able to say, with understanding,

"What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought,

Since Jesus came into my heart?"

I read somewhere of a fellow who was a tough drunkard. His name was Ham Fish. He ran a little old shop. It was dirty, the floors were not swept, and the windows were not washed. And the goods were in disorder on the shelves, and nobody had much dealings with him. He was a reprehensible character. One Monday morning the folks looked out at his shop and it had a sign on the front of it, "Ham Fish and Partner." The folks said, "Well, who in the world would be crazy enough to go into partnership with that fellow?" And they went over there, and the floor had been swept and the windows had been washed and the goods were in order on the shelves, and back of the counter stood Ham Fish himself, sober and clean and smiling. They found that he had been converted on Saturday night, and he took the thing literally, brother; he took Jesus into partnership with him. He had something there. There is something to that. And brother, when the Lord Jesus comes in a lot of things have to go out, but He will make it over into a new place. I wonder if the Lord is running your shop to His grace and glory?

3. The Person You May Be

Then the third person is the person that you may be as a Christian right now, if you are

willing to let Christ live His life in you. You know, we have a lot of people who are saved, but they never have moved over to the blessed place where they can say, "I am crucified with Christ," (Gal. 2:20) and "Christ liveth in me"

really. It is one thing to live a changed life; it is another thing to live the exchanged life, where you have quit living in your own strength and the blessed Lord has taken over. You know, a lot of people are trying to go to Heaven today by living like Jesus. Nobody ever got to Heaven living like Jesus. You do not have what it takes. That is not the Christian life. It is not imitation; it is identification. You cannot any more pull yourself up to be like Christ than you can lift yourself up by your own bootstraps. You cannot do it. We have a lot of lovely talk today in some pulpits about making Christ Master and catching His spirit, living from Jesus' point of view, and all that sort of thing. That never took anybody to Heaven. You might go to hear Fritz Kreisler play the violin and come away perfectly entranced with his playing, but still just by that you cannot play the violin. And so we see the Lord Jesus and we marvel at Him and we admire Him, but just copying Him never took anybody to Heaven. You might live in France, you might speak French, you might act like a Frenchman, but that would not make you a Frenchman. You have to be born there, really, to be a Frenchman. And you never get in the kingdom of God by taking out naturalization papers. You cannot get in that way. It starts with a "B. A." degree—Born Again; it is not earned, it is not learned. You get into it by a miracle, as you trust Jesus.

Then some people try to get to Heaven living for Jesus. And I am not speaking critically; they are lovely people. But some folks are trying to live for Jesus just like people live for some other good cause like prohibition and world peace; but you never get to Heaven that way. Paul did not

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2 Dan'l spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the

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say, "For to me to live is to live like Christ;" he did not say, "To me to live is to live for Christ;" he said, "To me to live is Christ." Christ is the whole thing. He is the origin of my life; He is the sustenance of my life; He is the object of my life; He is the whole thing. Please take this thought with you if you forget all else, that the Christian life is not something we live by the help of Christ. The Christian life is Christ living in us by our consent. He did not come to take your part; He came to take your place, and that is an entirely different thing altogether. And the Christian life is when you quit trying to live by your own strength, by your own will, and let Christ take care. That is the first step; that is the main issue. I am so glad that the Lord Jesus not only died for me; He lives for me and He wants to live His life in me. He is my substitute and He has all that it takes.

4. The Person You Will Be

My friends, there is something else exceedingly precious. Our brother was singing about it a moment ago, about "sunrise tomorrow." That is the person ye shall be. The person you were; the person you are, as a Christian, if you are saved; the person you may be here and now by living victoriously; and, thank God, the person ye shall be. "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." (I Jno. 3:2.) You know every time I look in a looking glass, brother, —every time I look in a mirror at this map of mine, I certainly agree with that verse, "it doth not yet appear what we shall be." Brother, I do not look like it yet, but it is coming because the Word of God promises that to me, and I read that we shall be like Him.

I read somewhere of a little boy whose father was a sailor. His father was coming in one night. The little fellow wanted to sit up, but unfortunately sleep got the better of him. They put him to bed and he took with him to bed a block of wood and his knife. He had been trying to carve a boat out of this hunk of wood. He hadn't been able to cut it very straight, and you could not tell what he had in mind, exactly, but he had done the best he could. Presently he fell asleep and the little knife fell this way and the block of wood that way. His father came later on. He came in, went up to the bed, picked up the block of wood, and with his own skilled fingers carved out a beautiful little boat. The next morning when the little boy woke up, it was the surprise of his life. He knew he hadn't done it, and yet there it was, a beautiful thing.

Well, do you know what I thought when I read this? I sometimes think that I am the greatest failure that ever started out to follow the Lord Jesus Christ. Sometimes I think the best I am and the best I do is like that little boy, whittling away on the block

of wood. But I know this: if Jesus tarries, one of these days I am going to fall asleep, and the Lord is going to take over and He will perfect that which concerneth me. And although the best I could do looks like that little block of wood, when I awake in His likeness, we will have finished the product. We are all going to look better, and feel better, and be better over there. Aren't you glad for what lies ahead? You know, we do not have it all yet. If you had it all now, we would not be looking out of those glasses, and you would not have that baldness and those false teeth. You don't have it all yet. Ah, but it is coming! And one of these days that one thing the Lord has promised us better than that, eternal life with Him through all the days of eternity. Over in England on the tomb of Charles M. Alexander there are written the words of one verse of that great song he took around the world,

"When, by the gift of His infinite grace,
I am accepted in Heaven a place,
Just to be there and to look on His face,
Will through the ages be glory for me."

Now Charlie knows about that. He has already crossed over, and the person that we will be, he is now. He's got the march on us there. The rest of us are still here.

But I wonder if I am speaking to somebody over the air, who is still the person you were, that is, the person you are. You are still a sinner. May I point you to the Lord Jesus Christ? He will save you where you are, if you are willing right now to bow your head and say, "Lord, I know I am a sinner and I cannot save myself. I know that Jesus died to save me, and I would look away from sin and self now and behold the Lamb of God." And if you will open the door of your heart right where you are there by that radio, and let the Lord Jesus come in, He has said in His Word, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." May the Lord help you to do that!

And maybe there is some Christian listening in. You have already reached the second milestone of these four that I have mentioned, but you are a defeated Christian; some old habit, some trouble has the best of you. Why don't you move on out full surrender and consecration to the person you are to the person you may be by the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit?

How many of you dear friends here before me at this noon-day hour are victorious Christians? Have you ever moved out from trying and straining and striving into living in the fulness and power and fruitfulness of walking

With the Evangelists

Reports From America's Outstanding Soul Winners

By Dr. Robert J. Wells, Associate Editor
Associate Editor in Great Meeting in Duluth, Minnesota

I have just returned from two weeks and three Sundays of meeting in the Temple Baptist Church of Duluth, Minnesota, where Brother William Turnwall is the successful pastor. In spite of the inclement weather, including the seventeen-inch snow storm which received national publicity, God undertook to bless in a marvelous way.

The Temple Baptist Church is the largest Baptist Church in Duluth, and the attendance increased from night to night until the auditorium, including the balcony, was packed full at the end of the first week and remained that way throughout the second week. There was a profound deepening in the spiritual lives of the Christians and the attendance at the special prayer meetings was unusually good. There were many conversions and a large number of backsliders were reclaimed. A seventeen-year-old girl trusted Christ one night, returned the following evening with a friend, who also found Christ. Then after spending three or four days in the hospital, she returned and brought another to Christ.

The young people were greatly stirred, and on the closing Sunday

afternoon when I invited young people to give their lives to the Lord for full-time service, there was truly a great response. The movement was very slow at first, and then as the conviction and the power of God fell, they kept on coming, deeply moved. Most of those who came were in tears and it was not long until the entire front of the church was crowded with young people, giving their lives to Christ. At the close of this service, one of the leaders of the church came to me, and said:

"This is wonderful. If Heaven is any better than this, I'll die."

For the second week we had Professor Nels Stjernstrom of the Bethel Baptist Institute, St. Paul, to direct the music.

Pray for me as I go to the Meridian Avenue Baptist Church, Wichita, Kansas, April 22nd-May 6th, where Brother R. L. Woods is the pastor.

Dr. Appelman In Jacksonville

"To God's eternal glory, there were 120 actual additions; and at least 25 other conversions in the two weeks campaign conducted in the Southside Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Florida. Dr. W. Herschell Ford is doing magnificent work as pastor" writes this greatly used Jewish Evangelist.

Harry Albus in Hager City, Wisconsin

Brother Harry Albus reports that over 14 churches were represented from eight denominations and 25 decisions were made for salvation as well as many Christians dedicating themselves to the Lord for service in a four day revival campaign in Hager City, Wisconsin, and a Youth for Christ rally in Red Wing, Minnesota.

Evangelist Joseph W. Hakes

Rev. Harold W. Ranes, pastor of the North Baptist Church of Indianapolis, Indiana writes that "twelve of fifteen souls gave their hearts to the Lord Jesus" during a recent meeting conducted in his church by Evangelist and Mrs. Joseph Hakes.

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THE GREATEST SIN

(Continued from page four)

One day an out-door preacher preached a sermon on hell. A heckler in his audience cried out, "Where is hell?" and the preacher wisely answered back, "Hell is at the end of a Christless life." It is true—in rejecting Christ a man seals his doom in hell forever.

In a small town in Texas a revival meeting was being held under a brush arbor. The crowds were coming and many souls were being saved. One of the deacons of the church had a son who was deaf and dumb. Someone came to the singer and said to him, "Dummy Walker wants to come down the aisle and give his heart to Christ." "How do you know?" said the singer, "he cannot talk." The man replied, "Today when no one else was here he came into the meeting place—he put his hand on his heart... he pointed to the setting sun and then walked down the aisle. He sat down on the mourner's bench and then walked over to the pulpit and patted the Bible. He then shook hands with himself and pointed again to the sun as if he were saying that when the sun went down he would come down the aisle and give his heart to Christ."

The preacher and the singer went out to Dummy's home immediately. They found him and said to him, "Dummy, do you want to be saved—do you want to be a Christian?" He opened his mouth and gave out an awful sound, but they could not understand what he meant. They took him to his father and the preacher said, "Deacon, can you tell Dummy about accepting Christ?" The deacon replied, "Preacher, I am fifty-three years of age—I have been a Christian since I was eleven, and a deacon since I was thirty—I can tell Dummy anything about the farm and he will understand, but I cannot tell him about Christ. Maybe his mother can help."

The trio then went into the kitchen and the preacher said to the mother, "Dummy wants to give his heart to Christ, can you tell him about the Saviour?" The tears came into her eyes, and she said, "I am forty-eight years of age—I have been a Christian since I was nine. I can tell Dummy to bring in the wood and he understands it. I can tell him to call his father and he understands. I have tried to make him understand about Christ, but I have failed. Maybe his sister can help him, she is out in the garden."

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They went out into the garden and found the sister. The preacher said, "Dummy wants to give his heart to Christ, can you tell him about the Saviour?" The sister walked over and put her arm around Dummy and said, "Preacher, I am twenty-seven years of age. My husband and I are both Christians. Since I was a child I have brought the Sunday School cards home to Dummy. I have tried to make him understand about Christ, but I cannot do it." The preacher said, "There is only one thing for us to do—let us pray." They dropped upon their knees there in the garden and all of them prayed except Dummy.

That night the brush arbor was packed with people. The sermon was preached and the invitation was given. The first one to come down the aisle was Dummy. He knelt on the ground in front of the pulpit while the preacher bowed his head and wept. In a moment the preacher felt a tug at his coat—he looked up and Dummy was

standing there with his face beaming. The poor boy raised his hands toward the skies as if to embrace the heavens, then brought his hands down to his heart. He did this again—pointing to the Bible and then to his heart. Then he reached out his hand to the preacher. A great smile wreathed his face and the people voted to give him the hand of Christian fellowship. The saints of God began to shout for again Jesus had wrought a miracle.

During the other days of the revival Dummy won more people to Christ than any of the others. He could not talk, but he would put his arms around a lost man, hug him to his heart and smile. Then he would point to the sky—then to the man's heart. Then he would give him a little shove down the aisle. One by one he led a score of souls to know Jesus Christ.

Oh, my friend, if a poor deaf and dumb boy needed Christ and wanted a Saviour, you need Him too. Don't you want Him today? Don't go on rejecting Him—it will be tragic if you take this course. Accept Him as your Saviour—live for Him and know the greatest joy and happiness that can come to any soul.

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

CORRECTION... OF CHILDREN

(Continued from page three)

the kingdom. First Kings 1:5, 6 says, "Then Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, I will be king: and he prepared him chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him. And his father had not displeased him at any time in saying, Why hast thou done so? and he also was a very goodly man; and his mother bare him after Absalom."

David had never displeased Adonijah saying, "Why has thou done so?" The lack of discipline and restraint, that lack of punishment, made Adonijah into the rebel who would have seized the kingdom. "A child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame."

And was that the way King David reared his boys? We suppose he was as lax with other sons as with Adonijah. Consider, then, that one son of David, Amnon, who raped his fair half sister, Tamar

(II Sam. 13:1-19). "The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame." How sad that David did not use the rod and reproof on Amnon and save the poor boy from becoming a rapist and being later murdered for his sins!

Absalom, too, was David's son. It is fair to suppose that David reared Absalom as carelessly as Adonijah. Absalom then murdered his brother, Amnon, then set out systematically to steal the hearts of the people and then rebelled against King David, seized the kingdom, committed adultery with David's wives, and that in public and tried to kill King David, his father! Surely it is true that "The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame."

Fathers and mothers who do not discipline their children, may find them turn out to be criminals.

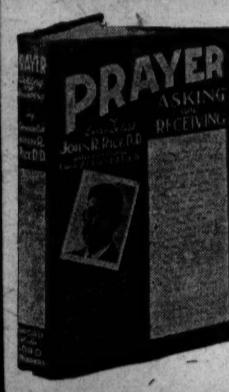
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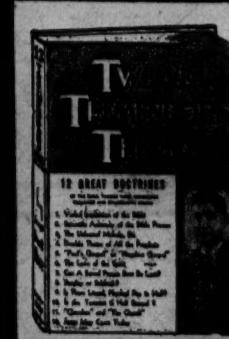
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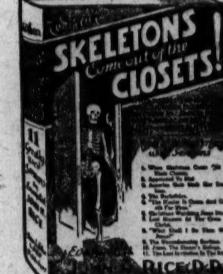
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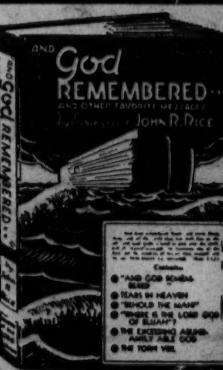
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